

Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel Claim 21 without prejudice.

Please amend Claims 1, 4-6, 8, 10, 11, 13, 15, 17, and 18 as follows.

Please add new Claims 22-40 as follows.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. (Currently amended) In an agricultural combine disposed in an ambient environment, an
- 2 unloading auger for removing a crop material from a storage bin, ~~the~~ said unloading auger
- 3 comprising:
- 4 an infeed section coupled to an outlet of said storage bin for receiving ~~the~~ said crop
- 5 material from said storage bin;
- 6 an outfeed section including a first segment coupled to said infeed section and a second
- 7 segment hingedly connected to said first segment, said first segment and said second segment
- 8 being pivotal relative to one another at said hinged connection, said pivot being in a substantially
- 9 horizontal plane, said pivot transitioning said first segment and said second segment ~~wherein said~~
- 10 ~~first segment and said second segment are pivoted in a substantially horizontal plane~~ between a
- 11 storage position and a coaxially connected unloading position while maintaining said infeed
- 12 section in a substantially vertical orientation; and
- 13 an actuator, said actuator pivoting at least one of said first segment and said second
- 14 segment in a substantially horizontal plane about said hinged connection.

2. (Presently Presented) The unloading auger according to Claim 1, further comprising a lockable hinge disposed between said first segment and said second segment.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) The unloading auger according to Claim 1, wherein grain is prevented from being accidentally released through an open end of one of said first segments and said second segment when said auger is in ~~the~~ said storage position.

5. (Currently Amended) The unloading auger according to Claim 4, wherein, when in said storage position, said first segment and second segments are positioned generally parallel to ~~the~~ a longitudinal axis of said combine with said second segment being positioned generally adjacent to an outside edge of said first segment ~~when said auger is in the storage position~~.

6. (Currently amended) An agricultural combine comprising:

a storage bin; and

an unloading auger movable between a storage position and an unloading position for unloading a crop material from said storage bin, said auger including:

a horizontal section in communication with said storage bin, ~~wherein~~ said horizontal section ~~includes~~ including a first segment and a second segment, ~~wherein~~ said first segment ~~is~~ being movable with respect to said storage bin, ~~wherein~~ said first segment and said second segment ~~are~~ being horizontally disposed when said auger is disposed in ~~the~~ said storage position and in ~~the~~ said unloading position;

a hinged joint pivotally connecting said first segment and said second segment,

11 said first segment and said second segment being pivotal relative to one another at said hinged  
12 joint, said pivot being in a substantially horizontal plane ~~thereby allowing said first segment and~~  
13 ~~said second segment to be relatively pivoted when moving said auger between the~~ said storage  
14 position and the said unloading position; and  
15 an actuator for pivoting at least one of said first segment and said second segment  
16 in a substantially horizontal plane about said hinge.

1 7. (Cancelled)

1 8. (Currently Amended) The agricultural combine according to Claim 6, wherein said auger  
2 is manually relocated between ~~the~~ said storage position and the said unloading position.

1 9. (Cancelled)

1 10. (Currently Amended) The agricultural combine according to Claim 6, wherein:  
2 said combine further includes a body with a rearmost end; and  
3 no portion of said first segment and said second segment extends beyond said rearmost  
4 end of said combine when said auger is in the said storage position.

1 11. (Currently amended) The agricultural combine according to Claim 6, wherein said  
2 actuator is a hydraulic cylinder that pivots said first segment and said second segment around  
3 said hinged joint, and wherein said hinged joint is lockable and is disposed between said first  
4 segment and said second segment ~~when said auger is in the unloading position.~~

1 12. (Cancelled)

1 13. (Currently Amended) The agricultural combine according to Claim 6, wherein, when in  
2 said storage position, said first segment and said second segment are positioned generally  
3 parallel to a longitudinal axis of said combine with said second segment positioned generally  
4 adjacent to an inside edge of said first segment when said auger is in the storage position.

1 14. (Cancelled).

1 15. (Currently Amended) The unloading auger according to Claim 1, wherein said second  
2 segment defines an auger exit opening for delivering ~~the~~ said crop material to ~~the~~ said ambient  
3 environment.

1 16. (Previously Presented) The agricultural combine according to Claim 6, wherein said  
2 storage bin defines an upper surface, and wherein said horizontal section is in communication  
3 with said upper surface.

1 17. (Currently Amended) In an agricultural combine disposed in an ambient environment, an  
2 unloading auger for removing a crop material from a storage bin, ~~the~~ said unloading auger  
3 comprising:

4 an infeed section coupled to an outlet of said storage bin for receiving ~~the~~ said crop  
5 material from said storage bin;

6 ~~an~~ two-segmented, foldable outfeed section including a first segment and a second  
7 segment, said first segment including a first end and a second end, said first end coupled to said  
8 infeed section and a said second end pivotally coupled to said second segment, said pivotal  
9 coupling defining a single axis of pivotal movement, said second segment being pivotally

10 foldable relative to said first segment, said pivotal fold allowing transition of said outfeed section  
11 ~~second segment hingedly connected to said first segment, wherein said first segment and said~~  
12 ~~second segment are pivoted in a horizontal plane~~ between a storage position and a coaxially  
13 connected unloading position, said transition occurring about only one axis of pivot while  
14 ~~maintaining said infeed section in a substantially vertical orientation; and~~  
15 a safety mechanism for preventing ~~the~~ said crop material from spilling out when said  
16 auger is in ~~the~~ said storage position.

1 18. (Currently Amended) The unloading auger according to Claim 17, wherein said safety  
2 mechanism prevents said auger from operating in ~~the~~ said storage position.

1 19 –21 (Cancelled)

1 22. (New) The unloading auger according to Claim 1, wherein said actuator is a hydraulic  
2 cylinder.

3 23. (New) The agricultural combine according to Claim 1, wherein, when in said storage  
4 position, said first segment and said second segment are positioned generally parallel to a  
5 longitudinal axis of said combine with said second segment positioned generally adjacent to an  
6 inside edge of said first segment.

1 24. (New) The agricultural combine according to Claim 6, wherein, when in said storage  
2 position, said first segment is positioned generally parallel to a longitudinal axis of said combine  
3 and said second segment is positioned generally transverse to said longitudinal axis of said  
4 combine, said second segment being positioned generally along the rear end of said combine.

1    25.    (New) The agricultural combine according to Claim 6, wherein said actuator is a  
2    hydraulic cylinder.

1    26.    (New) The unloading auger according to Claim 6, wherein, when in said storage  
2    position, said first segment and said second segment are positioned generally parallel to a  
3    longitudinal axis of said combine with said second segment being positioned generally adjacent  
4    to an outside edge of said first segment.

1    27.    (New) The agricultural combine according to Claim 6, wherein, when in said storage  
2    position, said first segment is positioned generally parallel to a longitudinal axis of said combine  
3    and said second segment is positioned generally transverse to said longitudinal axis of said  
4    combine, said second segment being positioned generally along the rear end of said combine.

1    28.    (New) The unloading auger according to Claim 17, wherein said actuator is a hydraulic  
2    cylinder.

1    29.    (New) The unloading auger according to Claim 17, wherein said first segment and said  
2    second segment pivotally fold relative to one another in a substantially horizontal plane between  
3    said storage position and said unloading position.

1    30.    (New) The unloading auger according to Claim 17, wherein said first segment and said  
2    second segment pivotally fold relative to one another in a substantially vertical plane between  
3    said storage position and said unloading position.

1 31. (New) The unloading auger according to Claim 17, wherein, when in said storage  
2 position, said first segment and said second segment are positioned generally parallel to a  
3 longitudinal axis of said combine with said second segment being positioned generally adjacent  
4 to an outside edge of said first segment.

1 32. (New) The agricultural combine according to Claim 17, wherein, when in said storage  
2 position, said first segment is positioned generally parallel to a longitudinal axis of said combine  
3 and said second segment is positioned generally transverse to said longitudinal axis of said  
4 combine with said second segment positioned generally along the rear end of said combine.

1 33. (New) The agricultural combine according to Claim 17, wherein, when in said storage  
2 position, said first segment and said second segment are positioned generally parallel to a  
3 longitudinal axis of said combine with said second segment positioned generally adjacent to an  
4 inside edge of said first segment.

1 34. (New) The agricultural combine according to Claim 17, wherein, when in said storage  
2 position, said first segment is generally parallel to a longitudinal axis of said combine and said  
3 second segment is positioned generally vertically to the ground.

1 35. (New) A method of moving an auger of an agricultural combine between an unloading  
2 position and a storage position, the method comprising the steps of:  
3 pivoting a substantially horizontally disposed outfeed auger in a substantially horizontal  
4 plane relative to a grain storage bin of said combine, said outfeed auger including at least a first  
5 segment and a second segment, said first segment being pivotally connected to said second

6 segment; and

7 pivotally folding at least one of said first segment and said second segment in a  
8 substantially horizontal plane relative to said other.

1 36. (New) The method of Claim 35, wherein the step of pivotally folding includes  
2 positioning said first segment and said second segment into substantially horizontally planar  
3 coaxial alignment when in said unloading position and positioning said first segment and said  
4 second segment parallel to a longitudinal axis of said combine, said second segment being  
5 positioned generally adjacent to an outside edge of said first segment, when in said storage  
6 position.

1 37. (New) The method of Claim 35, wherein the step of pivotally folding includes  
2 positioning said first segment and said second segment into substantially horizontally planar  
3 coaxial alignment when in said unloading position and positioning said first segment and said  
4 second segment parallel to a longitudinal axis of the combine, said second segment being  
5 positioned generally adjacent to an inside edge of said first segment, when in said storage  
6 position.

1 38. (New) The method of Claim 35, wherein the step of pivotally folding includes  
2 positioning said first segment and said second segment into substantially horizontally planar  
3 coaxial alignment when in said unloading position and positioning said first segment parallel to a  
4 longitudinal axis of said combine and said second segment generally transverse to said  
5 longitudinal axis of said combine, said second segment being positioned generally along the rear  
6 end of the combine, when in said storage position.



1     39.     (New) A method of moving an auger of an agricultural combine between an unloading  
2     position and a storage position, the method comprising the steps of:  
3             pivoting a substantially horizontally disposed outfeed auger in a substantially horizontal  
4     plane relative to a grain storage bin of said combine, said outfeed auger including at least a first  
5     segment and a second segment, said first segment being pivotally connected to said second  
6     segment; and  
7             pivotally folding said second segment in a substantially vertical plane relative to the said  
8     first segment.

1     40.     (New) The agricultural combine according to Claim 39, wherein the step of pivotally  
2     folding includes positioning said first segment and said second segment into substantially  
3     horizontally planar coaxial alignment when in said unloading position and positioning said first  
4     segment parallel to a longitudinal axis of said combine and said second segment generally  
5     vertically to the ground, when in said storage position.